

FREE PRIMER

The four-candle fractal model: a beginner's primer

How to read a breach, a Reclaim, the trigger close, Extend, and Finish on any chart, in the order the model reads them.

Davidovich Equity, September 2026. Educational material, not personalized advice. No performance, probability, or win-rate claims are made anywhere in this guide.

How to read this guide

This primer teaches a way of reading price that separates three things most beginners blend together: where a move could matter, whether it has actually happened, and what would prove it wrong. It is the same method the Fractal Model Pro+ indicator draws on a TradingView chart, but you need no software to follow it. Every rule here can be checked by hand on a historical chart.

Read the chapters in order the first time. Each one builds on the last:

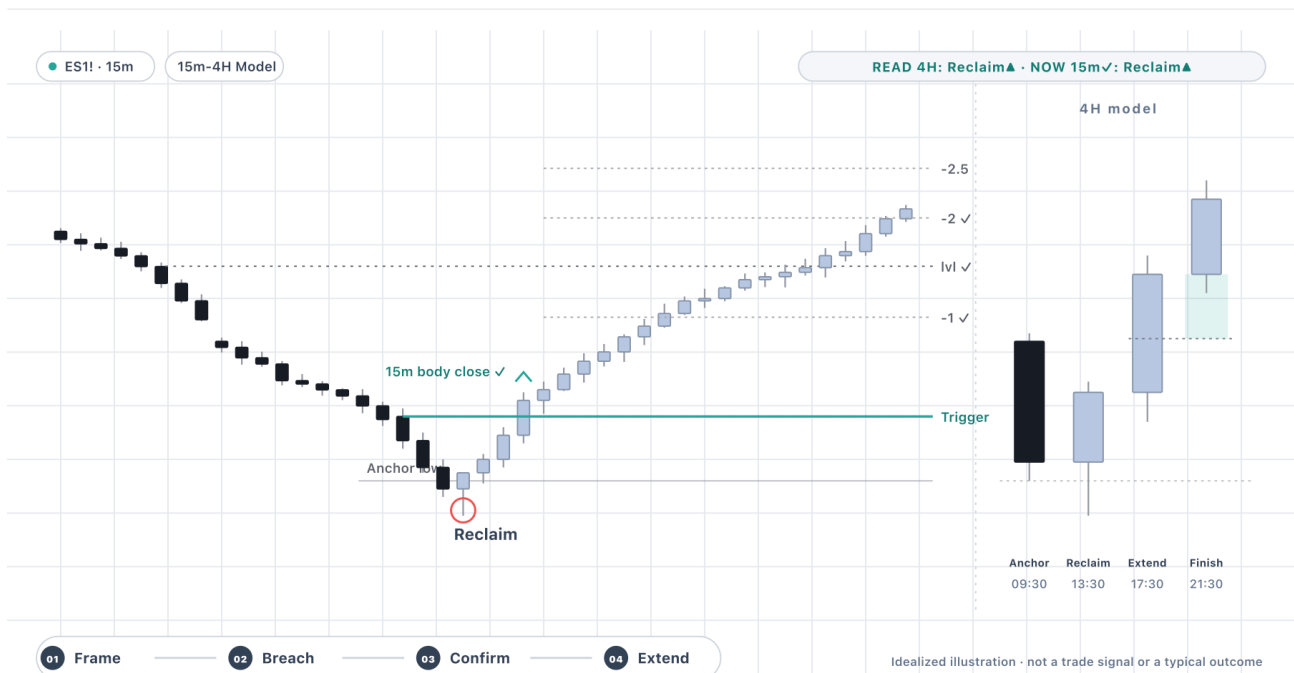
- 1 **The breach:** price trades through a level everyone can see.
- 2 **The Reclaim:** the candle closes back through that level, and only a close counts.
- 3 **Location:** why most breaches are noise and which ones qualify.
- 4 **The trigger close:** the smaller-timeframe close that confirms the shift.
- 5 **Extend and Finish:** what follow-through looks like, and where the sequence stops.
- 6 **The timeframe chain:** one chart confirms, one chart frames, nothing bleeds between them.
- 7 **A review checklist** you can copy into a journal.
- 8 **Getting started on TradingView**, if you want the model drawn for you.

A note on words. This guide uses the vocabulary of the indicator: Anchor, Reclaim, Extend, Finish, breach, trigger line, open levels, wick zone, midpoint. The glossary at the end defines each one in a sentence.

The model at a glance

The four-candle fractal model organizes price into four functional stages on one timeframe, called the model timeframe. The labels describe roles in a sequence; they do not predict what any candle must do, and the same anatomy repeats on every timeframe pairing.

Stage	Role	What must happen
Anchor	Reference	An extreme holding a visible open level
Reclaim	Breach and reversal	Trades through the Anchor's extreme, body closes back through it
Extend	Expansion	Directional follow-through after a valid Reclaim
Finish	Final continuation	Armed only by an Extend that followed through; the sequence ends here



The read every lesson builds toward, as the indicator draws it: the breach, the trigger close, the projections, and the four-stage candle stack on the model timeframe.

Validity comes before anything else. A Reclaim counts only when its breach formed at a qualified location and the chart timeframe confirmed it with a trigger close. Geometry alone is a candidate, not a setup.

Chapter 1: the breach

A breach is price trading beyond a visible high or low and reacting. Obvious extremes collect stop and breakout orders, so a run through one can fuel either a reversal or a genuine breakout. A breach is an event, not a signal. Context, confirmation, invalidation, and risk still decide everything.

Where open levels sit

Orders cluster at prices everyone can see:

- Recent swing highs and lows
- The prior session's high or low
- Equal or nearly equal highs and lows
- A reference candle's extremes
- The edge of a model-timeframe gap

Breach versus breakout

Both start with price crossing an old extreme. The body close separates them:

- **Breakout:** the body closes beyond the level. Acceptance outside the range.
- **Breach (reversal read):** the body closes back through the level. Rejection.

You cannot make this call mid-candle. A rejection-looking wick can become a breakout by the close. Wait for it.

Bullish and bearish

Bullish: price trades below a reference low, fails to hold, and closes back above it. Sellers pushed through a known low and could not keep acceptance there.

Bearish: the mirror. Through a prior high, no acceptance, close back below.

Neither pattern means price must reverse. It becomes interesting only with location and confirmation, which are the next two chapters.

Chapter 2: the Reclaim

A Reclaim forms when price breaches the previous candle's high or low and the body closes back through the breached boundary. Simple rule, strict application: geometry without location is noise, and location without confirmation is still just a candidate.

The rule

Two observations, judged only at the close:

- 1 Price trades beyond the previous candle's extreme.
- 2 The body closes back through that breached level.

Bullish: through the prior low, close back above it. **Bearish:** through the prior high, close back below it.

The rule is color-agnostic: a green candle can be a bearish Reclaim. Direction comes from the side breached and where the body closes, never from the candle's color. Until the candle closes, an apparent reclaim can still become a breakout; a body finishing beyond the level is the opposite verdict from the same excursion.

The Anchor

The candle whose high or low was breached is the Anchor. It frames the map: its extreme is the level under test, and its range gives the sequence its reference. No entry lives on the Anchor. Its job is to hold the level that the Reclaim tests.

Common mistakes

- Counting the second candle on screen as the Reclaim. Designation comes from role, not order.
- Accepting a wick or an unfinished candle as a closure.
- Using candle color as confirmation.
- Attaching a location after the fact to rescue a closure that failed the test in the next chapter.

Chapter 3: location

Markets print breach-and-reclaim candles all day inside ordinary ranges. Most of them mean nothing. A Reclaim is admitted only when its breach formed at a qualified model-timeframe location, checked in a strict order:

- 1 **Confirmed swing high or low.** Established structure, a visible open level.
- 2 **Active directional gap.** When no qualifying swing applies.
- 3 **The immediately breached opposing reference candle.** A fallback only, when neither higher-order location exists.
- 4 **The trailing 20-model-candle range extreme.** The last fallback, for a trend-colored blow-off top or bottom when nothing else qualifies.

This order is not a menu of equal choices. The range test should never rescue geometry that failed at a higher-priority test.

The qualification belongs to the original breach. A delayed confirmation can never search forward for a better location. If you cannot name the qualifying location before the outcome is visible, the correct classification is unqualified, however dramatic the eventual candle looks.

Location answers **where** a shift could matter. It does not prove that a shift has occurred. That proof is the trigger close.

Chapter 4: the trigger close

The trigger close is the mechanical confirmation event of the model. It does not predict reversals; it timestamps them: price has body-closed through a defined line after moving the other way.

The trigger line

Mark the open of the last same-direction run into the reversal. That is the trigger line.

- **Bullish:** price was moving lower; the open of the final bearish run is the line. A candle body-closes above it.
- **Bearish:** the mirror. The final bullish run's open; a body close below it.

A wick through the line is never the event. Only the close confirms, which cleanly separates three states: **armed** (candle forming), **triggered** (body closed through), and **absent** (window ended without the event).

Chapter 5: Extend and Finish

The canonical path is **valid Reclaim, then Extend, then Finish**. Ownership matters at every step: Extend belongs to the original reversal, Finish is armed only by an Extend that followed through, and the sequence ends at Finish.

Extend: continuation after a valid Reclaim

Extend tests whether the confirmed shift can follow through. The Reclaim's wick profile frames the trade-off:

- **Large reversal wick.** Much of the move was already rejected inside the Reclaim; the methodology points to the Extend continuation.
- **Small or expansion wick.** The Reclaim already moved; Extend can still run but carries chase and retrace risk.

No numeric cutoff exists, and no claim is made that either branch performs better. Use the profile to describe how much of a move is already behind you, not to decide which trade is likely to work.

Follow-through has three observable requirements

- 1 The body closes in the setup direction.
- 2 A new directional extreme prints.
- 3 The wick holds beyond the prior candle's midpoint.

A weak Extend stays visible as chronology, but it arms nothing.

Finish: final, framed by the midpoint

The midpoint is the 50% level of Extend's range. After an Extend that followed through, the Finish retrace is expected to hold Extend's directional half.

	Bullish Finish	Bearish Finish
Requires	Bullish Extend that followed through	Bearish Extend that followed through
Wick-zone half	Above the Extend midpoint	Below the Extend midpoint
Premise invalidated by	Finish open below the midpoint	Finish open above the midpoint
Entry confirmation	Fresh bullish trigger close	Fresh bearish trigger close

The wick-zone half is context, not an entry. A retrace touching the zone, even at a qualified location inside it, still requires a fresh trigger close. The model ends at Finish. No fifth stage, no sixth, no rolling relabels; the chart waits for the next independent structure.

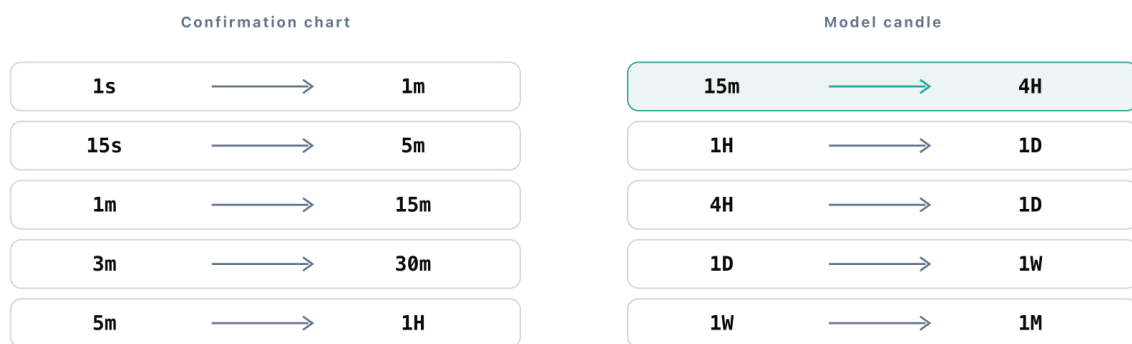
Invalidation is mechanical

If price trades back through the breach extreme, the read has failed. Write that price down before you do anything else with the setup. A failed read is never redrawn as a winner.

Chapter 6: the timeframe chain

Multi-timeframe analysis breaks down when every chart is blended into one synthetic state. The fix: give each timeframe one job, keep one fixed chart and model pair in charge, and preserve broader context without letting it rewrite local qualification.

Chart timeframe	Model timeframe
1 minute	15 minute
3 minute	30 minute
5 minute	1 hour
15 minute	4 hour
1 hour	1 day
4 hour	1 day
1 day	1 week
1 week	1 month



Automatic mode resolves only these chart intervals. Any other interval pauses the model and names the issue.

The automatic pairs. A chart timeframe confirms exactly one model timeframe; unsupported intervals pause rather than round into another pair.

For the intraday chain used throughout this primer, **15m confirms 4H, 4H confirms 1D, 1D confirms 1W**. Each arrow is its own pair. A 15-minute Reclaim is not a four-hour Reclaim; every tier completes on its own clock.

Every chart earns its own direction from its own structure and its own trigger close. A green daily candle is not automatically bullish, and a red weekly candle is not automatically bearish.

Two passes

Top down: open the broader charts, record their read, then return to the pair you are trading. Mixed observations are information; do not force agreement.

Bottom up: wait for the completed chart-timeframe event the model requires, preserve the owner (continuation advances Extend and Finish, no rolling Reclaims), compare with what you recorded above, then label the pair honestly: armed, NOW, finalized, or invalidated.

Chapter 7: the review checklist

Work through one concept at a time on historical charts. Hide later candles, write down the information available at that moment, and wait for the relevant candle to close before grading the observation. This separates a rule that was visible in real time from a conclusion that became obvious only afterward.

Before the outcome

- Which chart and model pair? Fixed for the whole read?
- Provisional bias from the model timeframe, and the structural reason?
- The Anchor's exact high or low?
- The qualified location, named before the outcome, with its place in the precedence?
- The breached side and the breach time?
- Did the body close back through the breached level, or is the candle still forming?
- The trigger line's price, and the time of the first body close through it?
- The invalidation price, written down?
- Possible objectives, treated as references rather than promises?

After the outcome

- Was the read armed, NOW, finalized, delayed, invalidated, or absent?
- Did Extend follow through on all three requirements?
- Was the owner preserved, or did a continuation candle get relabeled as a new Reclaim?
- Were the rules followed, whatever the result?

Judge the process separately from the outcome. A losing observation can follow the written rules, and a winning one can break them. If any answer is vague, there was no setup yet.

Getting started on TradingView

You can follow every chapter above by hand. If you want the model drawn for you, Fractal Model Pro+ is an invite-only TradingView script. There is no file to download and nothing to paste; access is attached to your TradingView username.

Before you add it

- 1 **Create your Davidovich Equity account** at davidovichequity.com and verify the email.
- 2 **Save your exact TradingView username** on the account page. Use the username from your TradingView profile, not a display name or email.
- 3 **Choose monthly or annual** on the pricing page and check out through Stripe.
- 4 **Wait for the access email.** Payment opens the request; the invite is added by hand within 24 hours. Your account page shows requested, active, or ended.

Adding it to a chart

- 1 In TradingView, sign in to the same username you saved.
- 2 Open a chart and click **Indicators**, then the **Invite-only scripts** tab.
- 3 Select **Fractal Model Pro+**. It appears on the chart with its defaults.
- 4 Set the chart to a supported timeframe. Start with **15 minutes**, which pairs with the 4-hour model, or **1 hour**, which pairs with the daily model.
- 5 Leave the settings alone for the first session. The monitor in the bottom right names the pair and counts down to the next model close; if it says the chart is paused, the timeframe is not one of the supported pairs.

The first things to look for

- A **Reclaim** tag under a candle that breached a level and closed back through it.
- The **trigger line**, dashed while armed and solid once a chart-timeframe candle has closed through it.
- The **READ** row in the monitor for the model-timeframe state, and **NOW** when a trigger close has landed inside an open model candle.
- The invalidation price and the projections, which are references, never instructions.

A chart with no tags is not broken. The model prints only when its rules are met, and most candles do not meet them.

If something is off

- No indicator in the Invite-only tab: confirm the account page says access is active and that you are signed in to the saved username. If both are true, email support with the account email and the username, never a password.
- Nothing draws: check the timeframe against the pair table in chapter 6.
- Too busy: use the display switches in settings, not the admission rules. Turning off the location or trigger requirements changes what counts as a setup.

Support is hello@davidovichequity.com. Send the page or chart where it happened and the message you saw; never send a password, a code, or card details.

Glossary

Term	Meaning
Anchor	The reference candle whose high or low holds the level under test.
Breach	Price trading through a visible level. An event, not a signal.
Reclaim	A breach whose candle body closes back through the breached level. Color-agnostic.
Location	The qualified model-timeframe structure at which a breach must form to count.
Trigger line	The open of the last same-direction run into the reversal, on the chart timeframe.
Trigger close	The first chart-timeframe body close through the trigger line. Armed until then.
NOW	A trigger close seen before the model candle closes; real, but not yet finalized.
Extend	Continuation after a valid Reclaim; follow-through has three observable requirements.
Finish	The final stage, armed only by an Extend that followed through. Nothing is drawn after it.
Midpoint	The 50% level of a candle's range.
Wick zone	The half of Extend's range a Finish retrace is expected to hold. Context, not entry.
Open levels	Prior highs and lows not yet traded through; possible objectives.
Chart and model timeframes	The fixed pair: the chart timeframe confirms, the model timeframe frames.
Invalidation	Price trading back through the breach extreme. The read has failed.

Risk disclosure and next steps

Trading futures and other leveraged products carries substantial risk of loss and is not suitable for everyone. Losses can exceed plans around news and in thin markets, and stops can fill at worse prices than intended. Nothing in this primer is a recommendation to trade any market, a promise of any outcome, or personalized financial advice. Practice in simulation, define maximum loss before any entry, and consult a licensed professional about your own situation.

The eight free lessons at davidovichequity.com/research cover the same material with worked diagrams, and Fractal Model Pro+ draws these designations, projections, and states on a TradingView chart as analysis, not as signals. Read the lessons first; decide about the software second.

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